

May 5, 2026, Tree Committee Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Michelle Coker

Taylor Parker

David Zwicky

David Cloward

Josie Taber

Jocelyn Kessler

Fred Lowry

Laura Bakker

Rhett Ogden

Odin Kirkham (Guest)

Bill Mark (Guest)

Michelle Coker moved to approve the meeting minutes from April 7, 2026. Jocelyn Kessler seconded the motion.

The Committee changed the agenda structure to focus on tree duties. The first item was to have a plan to do an inventory of existing trees. There are not currently resources to do that and the city does not currently have an arborist.

The Committee spends the bulk of their time planning for public areas: city entrances, city parks, and main transportation corridors. Most of the time is spent on main transportation corridors, but this needs to be better defined. The Committee is seeking clarification about expectations from the city.

There was discussion on who is responsible for maintaining the trees in park strips along main corridors (i.e. Zions Bank). Taylor said that Parks is not going to maintain those trees. The Committee has provided specs on new tree plantings in park strips and new development should be following those specs. There was discussion on how to enforce this. Michelle said the part time landscape inspector would be the person to enforce this (via a grant from Jordan Valley on community development). David C. would like to see them to adopt the tree planting specs as part of their inspections, and prioritize enforcement along main corridors.

Action item: Develop Tree Committee duties & responsibilities for City Council to review. David C. and Michelle will work with Rhett on developing a draft of objectives and duties/responsibilities.

Due to the water restrictions this year, the Committee may want to consider scaling back plantings this year. There is currently \$10,000 budget for trees to be purchased from Twin Pines Nursery. Previously, the city didn't have the staff to plant the trees to the funding was secured but deferred until there was enough manpower to plant the trees. Additionally, there is still

\$10,000 donation money (the donor has requested that this all be used in one location) and \$10,000 Tree Committee budget for this year.

Possible locations that were discussed:

- Draper Splash Pad area: The soil sample showed high salinity and there are also gophers. Some recommended trees for this area are honey locust, bald cypress, sycamore maple, hackberry (moderately tolerant). Michelle suggesting using the donor's \$10,000 elsewhere.
- Equestrian/bike park
- Disc Golf Course
- Replace dead trees – some of this has already been done with the money set aside for the Twin Pines Nursery. The Committee budget from this year can also be used to replace dead trees. Since the dead trees already have water, this would be a better approach with respect to water conservation.
 - **Action item:** The budget with the Twin Pines Nursery and this year's budget will go towards replacing dead trees.
- Pickleball courts (east) – this is owned by the county and they would be responsible for maintaining them.
 - **Action item:** Rhett will contact the county to see if this would be possible and the \$10,000 donor money would be transferred to the county. If they approve, David C. will reach out to the donor to make sure he is okay with this plan.

Brynn had expressed that the City Council would like input from the Committee on beautification efforts for city entrances. The Committee does not currently have the budget for this. In the past, the Committee identified the entrances and led some beautification efforts of what was already existing in those areas. The new construction on Bangerter and 13800 S. was discussed and an opportunity.

Action item: Brynn and Fred will provide guidance on beautification efforts and identifying main corridors.

Michelle Coker motioned to adjourn. Laura Bakker seconded the motion.